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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2020

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Canadian Publications Agreement No. 0662445 Vol.17 No. 9

INSIDE GAMES BEGIN



Special Olympics opens in Thunder Bay /3, 9

HAVING A SLEEPOVER



Shelter House to host SleepOut fundraiser /10

CURLERS IN CRASH



McCarville, Sippala and Lang shaken up /6

Hobbs not guilty

Former Thunder Bay mayor Keith Hobbs, his wife Marisa and friend Mary Voss avoid conviction on extortion charge after court says Crown failed to prove its case with witnesses who weren't believable/5



VERDICT IN: Former mayor Keith Hobbs (left), wife Marisa (centre) and Mary Voss walk into the Thunder Bay Courthouse.

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LOCAL NEWS

City lands second cannabis store licence

Kia Ora on Victoria Avenue joins Tokyo Smoke in pot business

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Dlaczuk – TB Source

The city could see two cannabis stores opening after a south side shop receives its operating license from the province.

Kia Ora on Victoria Avenue received its retail operator license from the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario in January after the province opened up applications to the general public following a lottery system that was in place last year.

“The next step is we have to wait until March 2 to apply for store authorization,” said Matthew Harrison, general manager of Kia Ora. “We’ve had a store since July 2019, ready to go, ready to sell cannabis, but we have been waiting for them to get rid of the



GREEN-LIT TO OPEN: Liam Heney (left), operations manager and Matthew Harrison, general manager at Kia Ora, plan to be open by the beginning or middle of April.

lottery system and just open it up to the public.”

Harrison said the goal is to have the

store operating and selling cannabis by the beginning or middle of April, but there are still several steps that need to

be taken, including a store inspection and hiring between 25 and 30 people.

“The timeline hopefully, we have to have a 15-day notice period, we are trying to be really aggressive and move as fast as we can go,” he said.

“All we have to do now is basically hire people and get them trained up. We have a job fair on Wednesday. We’ve had a couple for the last few weeks looking for applicants. That is the next step.”

This is the city’s second cannabis store to receive a retail operator license, with Tokyo Smoke receiving approval from the AGCO to open a location in the Intercity area on Memorial Avenue.

The location did receive some pushback from the city and businesses in the area, due to its proximity to YES Employment, but the AGCO issued the company a retail store authorization. There has been no indication yet when Tokyo Smoke plans to open in Thunder Bay.

According to Harrison, the location

of Kia Ora should not create any concerns, but he will have to wait until the end of the 15-day notice period.

“Everyone in the neighbourhood seems to be okay for it,” he said. “A lot of people who live nearby and say they love the idea. We haven’t heard any pushback from any businesses. We haven’t put our notice out yet, so once we do somebody might come through and put a valid complaint through. We don’t know.”

But Harrison believes the city having a second cannabis store will be good not only for customers, but the businesses themselves, because the province limits how much cannabis can be sold at a location per week.

“So what will happen is there will be cannabis and there will be none, so I think it’s better for the industry to have more than one store,” he said.

“A city like Thunder Bay could probably have half a dozen stores and be perfectly fine. That would at least stabilize the fact that people can go and buy it.”

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LOCAL NEWS



BIG WELCOME: Arriving Special Olympics Canada Winter Games athletes are greeted cheerfully at Thunder Bay Airport.

Special Olympics are underway in the Bay

Athletes arrive ahead of competition, which began Tuesday

THUNDER BAY
By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

Athletes stepping off planes from across the country got a hero's welcome as they arrived in Thunder Bay for this week's Special Olympics Canada Winter Games. Supporters, including the games' passionate cheer squad, were on hand to cheer athletes from three provincial teams at the Thunder Bay airport Sunday evening.

The games, which will see athletes with intellectual disabilities compete across eight sports, kicked off Tuesday and will conclude Saturday.

Adam Lloyd, a veteran on Manitoba's floor hockey team, said the enthusiastic greeting he and his teammates received was a display of the camaraderie the games are all about.

"The warm welcome we just got from the Ontario guys is mind-blowing," he said. "This is what we do it for, and this is why we have guys who have been doing it for years."

Lloyd himself has competed across four national winter games, and was selected as a member of Team Canada in the 2017 world games held in Austria. He says he's looking forward to connecting with old friends from past winter games. But once the whistle blows, Lloyd said, things get

serious – especially since these games help decide the athletes who will be selected for national teams.

"You can have friends, but once it's game time, it's game time – the friendship goes away," he explained. "You're there to do a job, you're there to compete. Everybody's fighting for that spot, and everybody has a chance. That's what we're all here for."

Lloyd was bullish on his team's chances in the competition, but expects fierce competition from Ontario, B.C., and Quebec in particular.

Barry Streib, chair of the organizing committee for the Games, said the arrival of the athletes made it all feel real, after years of planning and preparation. Athletes from the remaining provinces and territories will filter into the city throughout Monday.

Streib met with Special Olympics leadership earlier on Sunday, and said organizers are feeling confident, with everything in place for a successful week of games.

"There weren't a lot of questions from them, and that means we're well-prepared – and we are," he said.

Events throughout the week are free to attend on a first-come, first-serve basis. The opening ceremonies can be livestreamed at the Games' website, where more information and a full schedule can also be found.

"You're there to do a job, you're there to compete."
ADAM LLOYD

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
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LOCAL NEWS



FILM FRENZY: Activists on Sunday protest the screening of *Unplanned* at the Urban Abbey.

Unplanned rally

Pro-choice activists picket Urban Abby over film

THUNDER BAY

By Ian Kaufman –TB Source

The screening of an anti-abortion film has spurred protests and internal division at Thunder Bay's Urban Abbey. One staff member has left the organization over the issue, while numerous community members say they'll no longer engage with the group.

A screening of the controversial film *Unplanned*, organized by Right to Life Thunder Bay, was hosted at the Urban Abbey's Red River location Sunday evening. The event drew more than 100 protestors, who held signs and chanted pro-choice slogans outside. A similar number of people gathered inside to watch the film.

Unplanned is based on the memoirs of Abby Johnson, a former director at the American women's health non-profit Planned Parenthood. It tells the story of her journey to become a prominent anti-abortion advocate, using graphic imagery that earned the film an R rating, and painting Planned Parenthood as callous and profit-driven. Health experts have taken issue with the film's exaggerated portrayals of the procedure.

An online furor over the screening at Urban Abbey, which has generated hundreds of posts and comments on Facebook in recent weeks, took the organization's head of staff Scotland Morrison by surprise. Morrison says he was led to believe the screening was a "highly personal" private event, and was not aware it was organized by a formal pro-life group until recently.

"I feel like things were misrepresented to me, and I feel a little betrayed and a little upset – maybe a little isn't the right word," he said Sunday evening.

Morrison says the Abbey hosts many events organized by outside groups – sometime up to 40 per week – which aren't always closely vetted. Staff are working on drafting more detailed event policies following the controversy, he says.

Morrison is critical of the film and its approach, but says he decided to let the event go ahead largely because he felt obliged to defend the pro-life group from online attacks.

"It got fairly nasty, fairly quickly," he says of the online reaction, adding he felt the group was being bullied.

It's a decision that has cost the organization one staff member and the support of an untold number of community members.

Outside the building on Sunday evening, a number of protestors who had previously attended the Abbey for events or frequented its coffee shop, The Habit, said the organization's willingness to host the film would keep them away in future.

Amy Sellors was one of those protestors. She sees the film as an attack on women's rights, and believes providing a venue for it crossed a line.

"The Abbey's allowed to do whatever they choose to do, that's their right as an organization – and I'm allowed to spend my money and

my time where I want to," she says. "The free speech argument has come out a lot. My feeling is when your free speech tramples my human rights and freedoms, that walks a line closer to hate speech than free speech, and I'm not comfortable with that."

Inside, Rob Freeman, a Right to Life member, said it was important to hear the protestors' message.

"I think both sides need to listen well when the other side is saying, 'hey, you're starting to be hateful,'" he said.

"It got fairly nasty, fairly quickly."

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LOCAL NEWS

Ex-mayor found not guilty of extortion

Keith Hobbs, his wife Marisa and Mary Voss vindicated by courtroom decision

COURT
By Doug Dlazuk - TB Source

Hearing a judge declare that they were not guilty of the crime of extortion after being charged nearly four years ago was a ruling Keith and Marisa Hobbs and Mary Voss eagerly anticipated.

"On behalf of Keith and Marisa, we can only say that they were confident that this day would come," said attorney Brian Greenspan, speaking on behalf of Keith and Marisa Hobbs outside the Thunder Bay Courthouse on Thursday.

Justice Fletcher Dawson found Keith and Marisa Hobbs and Mary Voss not guilty of extortion in a Thunder Bay Courtroom on Thursday.

The verdict comes after a 15-day trial held last November and detailed alleged attempts by Keith and Marisa Hobbs and Voss to coerce the alleged victim into purchasing a house for Voss with threats of handing over incriminating evidence to police.

Dawson ultimately ruled the Crown

did not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that what took place constituted extortion and he questioned the credibility of several witnesses, including the alleged victim.

"Justice Dawson summarized the case perhaps in one simple phrase, it was an attempt by the investigation and the prosecution to put square pegs into round holes," Greenspan said.

"It is very, very telling that the three witnesses upon whom the entire case depended were all rejected. They were clearly and unequivocally rejected as being truthful and there was at the end of the day really no case against them."

Crown attorney, Peter Keen, said the ruling was not a disappointment because it is the job of the Crown to present all evidence before the court.

"The work in this case was making sure we put all the evidence forward, both helpful to us, helpful to the accused, helpful to the complainant, and make sure all of that evidence comes out in court and that was the objective in this case," he said.

"The Crown's job is to ensure justice is done. That means making sure the court has the information. A personal frustration, not really. The objective is to put the evidence forward, which I think we did."

Greenspan said the allegations leveled against Keith and Marisa Hobbs have been a strain on their lives and they had to live on a daily basis with the pressure of criminal charges over their heads.

"All these allegations they denied," he said. "There was a great deal of press and attention paid to these allegations that harmed them in many ways in the public and the community. Those allegations have been demonstrated not to be truthful or accurate."

Attorney George Joseph, speaking on behalf of Mary Voss, said he could only use one word to describe this experience for his client.

"Despair, unrelenting despair being in the public eye and having her family's name splashed across the paper each time," he said. "Mary Voss has always maintained her innocence. She is so thankful and so grateful that this is all over and looks forward to moving on in the next chapter of her life."

Keen said the Crown will review the entire 155-page ruling by Justice Dawson, while Greenspan and Joseph say their clients are looking forward to returning back to a normal life.

"Marisa and Keith hope for a return to normalcy and a life that will be productive both in terms of their contributions to the community and a resumption of a life that has always been one of contribution and a family life that has always been a happy family life," Greenspan said.



DID HIS JOB: Lawyer Brian Greenspan with clients Keith and Marisa Hobbs.

"Marisa and Keith hope for a return to normalcy..."
BRIAN GREENSPAN

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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Volunteers are aplenty

Thunder Bay and its volunteer community has done themselves proud all over again.

On Monday, athletes from across the country began arriving in the city, ready to compete at the 2020 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games.

More than 1,200 athletes coaches and family will descend on the city this week.

Without the more than 800 volunteers, there is no way the event happens.

That's a lot of people who are willing to give up some of their time to make sure things run smoothly.

We shouldn't be surprised.

Volunteerism has been a hallmark of Thunder Bay for decades.

The crowds that lined the fairway on No. 18 at Whitewater Golf Course each year at the Staal Foundation Open is a sign.

The same goes for the two under 18 world baseball tournaments the city hosted in 2010 and 2017.

It'll be evident at next year's Scotties Tournament of Hearts, and was likely a deciding factor in Curling Canada's decision to award the event to Thunder Bay after 25 years and despite a crumbling Fort William Gardens venue.

It's not just sporting events. Local organizations, like the United Way and the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre are powered in part by volunteerism.

Thanks for all you do, Thunder Bay.

Health crisis

To the editor:

The Assiginack Family Health Team added a splash of colour to their wardrobes this week, wearing diaphanous yellow gowns and matching disposable face masks. Dr. Bedard took the initiative as a preventive precautionary action.

His view was that we should all take the spread of infectious diseases more seriously. We are not prepared to face another major epidemic. Other health clinics in Ontario are taking similar precautions.

The ethical discussions whether to quarantine all travellers coming from China to Canada has caused great debate in this country. The U.S. has declared a public health emergency as of Friday, Jan. 31, 2020.

Canada is prepared to screen and isolate all potential health risk individuals with a 14-day quarantine procedure.

However, a new and disturbing outbreak in London, Ont. of the coronavirus has caused concern because this individual was in hospital a few days previous and released with no symptoms. It used to be all school children were lined up in the auditorium once a year and given vaccines for such infectious diseases as measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, small pox and polio which in preceding generations caused death or disfigurement.

I remember the stern faces of the nursing staff who administered the management of treatment. Tears or hysterics were not allowed.

The long sharp point of the needle had to be suffered in silence. As a consequence of years of vaccination procedures throughout the province, the eradication of these diseases caused a decline in vigilance. We

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



I remember the stern faces of the nursing staff who administered the management of treatment. Tears or hysterics were not allowed.

The long sharp point of the needle had to be suffered in silence. As a consequence of years of vaccination procedures throughout the province, the eradication of these diseases caused a decline in vigilance. We

have enjoyed the freedom from worry about a long time.

Many of us have endured the constant sneezing and coughing of infected individuals who come to public meetings or gatherings when they should stay at home. I believe it to be a dangerous practice of the hosting organizations not to address this as a public health risk. They

should consider the greater good of others.

The vulnerable, the elderly and the very young who are more susceptible to infection and go home sick themselves. The 'politeness gene' fails us by not wanting to give offence. There is nothing impolite in asking an individual who is quite obviously ill to act in a responsible manner and get well at home. Sometimes the body will act up without our permission.

If it becomes necessary to expunge bodily fluids in public, please cover your nose and mouth completely by using whatever may be conveniently at hand, shirt, sweater, towel or napkin.

Then sneeze. Internally.

No harm done. You're already infected. The second worst possible thing to do is to sneeze into the elbow.

This action only gives a jet propulsion shove of the pathogens into the air and ensures that everyone will be breathing it in within minutes. And the worst possible thing, ever, is to open your mouth and let everything drip and drool over everyone within spitting distance of the expulsion.

I have seen this happen time and again. We can all act safely and responsibly within reason by caring for each other and becoming more aware.

Lee Weimer,
Manitouwaning, Ont.

Curlers, coach in plane crash

Rick Lang suffers minor injuries, Krista McCarville, Ashley Sippala were OK

DRYDEN

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Local curlers Krista McCarville and Ashley Sippala, along with coach Rick Lang, were among six passengers on a Bearskin Airlines flight that crashed on takeoff in Dryden, Ont. on Monday afternoon.

McCarville, who arrived safely in Thunder Bay after driving home following the crash, said it was a frightening experience.

"It was very scary and we were all shaking, but luckily no serious injuries," McCarville said, reached by text shortly after making it back to Thunder Bay, thanks to her brother-in-law, who drove them halfway home, and Sippala's in-laws, who took them the rest of the way.

Lang suffered minor injuries and was taken to hospital as a precaution, along with another person on board the plane. He was released and was expected to return home on Tuesday.

The curlers were en route from Moose Jaw, Sask., where McCarville's Northern Ontario team made the 3-4 Page Playoff, losing to Ontario's Rachel Homan.

Dryden officials on Monday said the plane left the runway on takeoff and noted the Transportation Safety Board had been called in to investigate.

A total of eight people, including two crew members, were on board the flight.



LUCKY: Skip Krista McCarville, her teammate Ashley Sippala and coach Rick Lang were involved in Monday's crash.

CONTACT US:

87 North Hill Street,
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 5V6
Ph: 807-346-2600

Editor: Leith Dunick 346-2650
ldunick@dougallmedia.com

Reporter: Doug Diaczuk 346-2622
ddiaczuk@dougallmedia.com

Sales Manager:
Kathy Harris 346-2510
kharris@dougallmedia.com

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Perspective

Too early opening

Time capsule minimums should be put in place

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack
Special to TB Source

I am not very good at remembering special occasions and it looks like another birthday slipped by unnoticed earlier this year.

There are a few important dates that I never forget (spouse, kids, grandkids) but when Thunder Bay marked its 50th anniversary last New Year's Day, I had other plans.

In my defense, that is a very busy time of year and there is already enough going on without yet another celebration.

Anybody with a birthday around the holidays will know that after all the Christmas gifts, greetings and goodies it's hard to get excited about birthday cake.

So when Thunder Bay launched its 50th birthday celebrations on Jan. 1 by opening a 25-year-old time capsule, I was not part of that historical event.

Nostalgic

I have a somewhat romantic notion that time capsules contain secrets and intriguing evidence of amazing stories from a scandalous past.

This one left me wanting more – maybe it should have been left alone to age and mature for a few more decades.

It strikes me as odd that a relatively youthful capsule in its mid-twenties was opened to commemorate the achievements of

a middle-aged city in its fifties.

The contents revealed a commonplace collection of assorted memorabilia from our city's not too distant past.

I wasn't there for the big reveal but the collection of documents, lapel pins and assorted local brochures was not a show stopper.

It is hard to be surprised or amazed by artifacts and documents that are still within the living memory of any citizen 25 or older.

What about the years between 1970 and 1995 – didn't anything memorable or noteworthy happen during our first 25 years?

There should be a minimum age for time capsules (100 years sounds about right), at least long enough to create a mystique about the past.

A time capsule intended for future generations should not be opened until everybody has forgotten about it and it is accidentally discovered one day.

With all due respect to the committee that chose the 25-year-old mementos, the contents of the time capsule was a little mundane for my liking.

Most of us have more compelling keepsakes stored in old shoe boxes around the house.

Where's the treasure, where's the unsolved mystery, where's the intrigue – time capsules aren't what they used to be.

Last century, on July 22, 2008, Mayor Lynn Peterson presided over another official opening at city hall to reveal the contents of

two newly discovered artifacts.

One time capsule was discovered during city hall renovations and contained pictures and documents dating back to 1903, with additions made in 1966.

A second was found inside a podium built for the 1939 royal visit of King George VI, containing letters and posters from that event.

See, isn't that a more interesting capsule already?

Old artifacts

One item dated back to 1874, there were coins and stamps from 1903 and 1966 and there was even some treasure inside – a 1966 penny.

All items were put on public display for a short time and then placed in a new time capsule, reinstalled at city hall in 2009.

If we can wait until 2109 the opening should be quite amazing.

Anybody living in Fort William or Port Arthur in 1970 was present for the birth of Thunder Bay.

As part of our year-long birthday party local citizens are encouraged to share poignant memories and moments from our 50-year past.

Many go much further back than that.

We are all living, breathing time capsules of local history – everyone has compelling, colorful and interesting stories to tell as the party continues.

Happy belated birthday Thunder Bay.

FLYE-ING SOLO



LEITH DUNICK

SPEEDY DESCENT: Thunder Bay's Lucas Flye takes part last Friday in the Ontario Cup U16 provincial downhill skiing championship at Loch Lomond, competing in the second giant slalom race.

A look back in history: CPR Hotel

The Canadian Pacific Railway's Kaministiquia Hotel in Fort William is pictured here in the 1880s.

The hotel on Hardisty Street provided railway officials, businessmen and summer vacationers a place to rest, relax and do business.



HOW TO WRITE US:

Letters to the editor are most welcome. Those kept to 350 words or less have priority.

The Thunder Bay Source reserves the right to edit submissions for content and clarity. All attempts will be made to preserve the core argument of the author.

Address them to:
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87 North Hill Street,
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Review

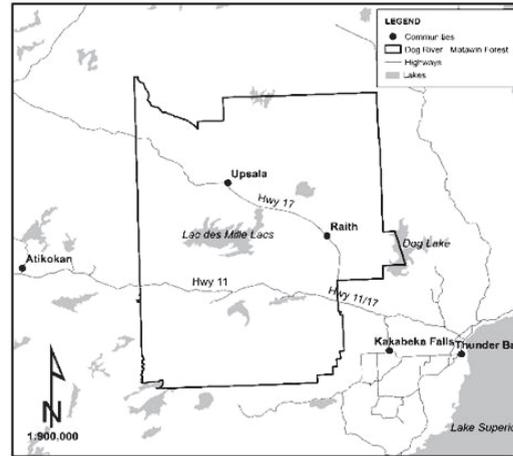
REVIEW OF PROPOSED OPERATIONS: INFORMATION CENTER DOG RIVER- MATAWIN 2021-2031 FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

Resolute FP Canada Inc. invite you to an information centre. This information centre is being held as part of the detailed planning of operations for the 10-year period of the 2021-2031 Forest Management Plan (FMP) for the **Dog River-Matawin Forest**.

The Planning Process

The FMP takes approximately three years to complete. During this time, five formal opportunities for public consultation and First Nation and Métis community involvement and consultation are provided. The second opportunity (Stage Two) for this FMP occurred on December 16, 2019 when the public was invited to review and comment on the long-term management direction. This 'Stage Three' notice is:

- To invite you to review and comment on
 - the details of access, harvest, renewal and tending operations for the ten-year period of the plan, and
 - the proposed primary and branch road corridors and the proposed operational road boundaries for the ten-year period of the plan, and
- To request contributions to the background information to be used in planning.



How to Get Involved

To facilitate your review, information centres will be held at the following locations;

Thunder Bay

Thursday March 19th, 2020 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm at the Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Rd, Thunder Bay ON.

Upsala

Tuesday March 24th, 2020 from 3:00pm to 7:00pm at the Upsala Community Center, 20 Community Hall Road, Upsala ON.

The following information may be obtained at the information centre:

- Summary of the MNRF Regional Director preliminary endorsed long-term management direction; and
- Summary map of:
 - the planned areas for harvest, renewal and tending operations for the ten-year period of the plan;
 - and
 - the proposed corridors for new primary and branch roads for the ten-year period of the plan.

In addition to the most current versions of the information and maps which were available at Stages One and Two of the public consultation, the following information will be available at the information centre:

- Summary of public comments and submissions received to date and any responses to those comments and submissions;
- The proposed road use management strategies; and
- The list of required modifications resulting from the public review of the long-term management direction.

The detailed proposed operations will be available for review and comment at the Resolute FP Inc. office and at the MNRF Thunder Bay District Office at the locations shown below by appointment during normal office hours for a period of 60 days March 19, 2020 to May 18, 2020. Comments on the proposed operations for the Dog River- Matawin Forest must be received by Peter Wiltsey of the planning team at the MNRF Thunder Bay District Office, **by May 18, 2020**.

Meetings with representatives of the planning team and the LCC can be requested at any time during the planning process. Reasonable opportunities to meet planning team members during non-business hours will be provided upon request. If you require more information or wish to discuss your interests and concerns with a planning team member, please contact one of the individuals listed below:

MNRF Contact

Peter Wiltsey, R.P.F.
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
435 James St. S., Suite B001
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7E 6S7
Phone: 807-475-1145
Peter.Wiltsey@ontario.ca

Company Contact

Beau Johnson, R.P.F.
Plan Author
Resolute FP Canada Inc.
2001 Neebing Ave.
Thunder Bay ON, P7E 6S3
Phone: (807)475-2030
Email:
beau.johnson@resolutefp.com

LCC Contact

Dog River-Matawin
Local Citizens' Committee
Representative
c/o Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Thunder Bay District Office
435 James Street South,
Suite B001
Thunder Bay, ON P7E 6S3
Phone: (807) 475-1145

During the planning process there is an opportunity to make a written request to seek resolution of issues with the MNRF District Manager or the Regional Director using a process described in the 2017 *Forest Management Planning Manual (Part A, Section 2.4.1)*.

Stay Involved

The tentative scheduled date for submission of the draft FMP is **June 21, 2020**. There will be two more formal opportunities for you to be involved. These stages are listed and tentatively scheduled as follows:

- Stage Four** -Information Centre: Review of Draft FMP
- Stage Five** -Inspection of MNRF-Approved FMP

- August 24th, 2020**
- February 12th, 2021**

If you would like to be added to a mailing list to be notified of public involvement opportunities, please contact Peter Wiltsey at 807-475-1145.

LOCAL NEWS



YUMMY: Hunter Fernyc's burger includes double patties, double cheese, pickles, hot sauce, lettuce, tomatoes, ketchup and bacon. They're on sale until the end of March at Beefcakes' Burger Factory

Hunter Burger helps hospitals

Tasty treat being sold at Beefcake's Burger Factory

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunlick - TB Source

The Hunter Burger is actually too big a mouthful for its inspiration to fit into his mouth.

But that didn't stop eight-year-old Hunter Fernyc from trying.

The youngster, who was diagnosed with the very rare hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis, has been in and out of hospital since he was born, but despite his struggles, he's still found time to dedicate to help raise money for the Children's Health Foundation.

He's had a Dairy Queen Blizzard named in his honour and his latest creation is the Hunter Burger, a double-double patty with double-double cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, ketchup, bacon and Heartbeat Hot Sauce, cooked up by the chefs at Beefcake Burger Factory.

"I picked the ingredients and it's very good," said Hunter, helping to launch a five-week campaign at the Hodder Avenue restaurant, with the proceeds from sales of his special burger being donated to the Children's Health Foundation.

"It's so delicious. Like peace."
Hunter said it was his experience with making his own Blizzard, combined with a

dinner out with his family, that gave him the idea.

Chef Derek Lankinen, who owns Beefcake's Burger Factory, said he was glad to help out.

"He came in and he crushed a monster two-patty cheeseburger. It was a thing of beauty watching this little human devour all this food. Then we got to talking with his parents and we learned all about Miracle Treat Day at Dairy Queen," Lankinen said.

"Then we got to talking about doing a promotion for the Children's Health Foundation. It all came together super quick."

It was Hunter who came up with the toppings for his burger creation. "The Hunter Burger is him, through and through. I added a little bit to it and made it a little bit more like a Beefcake's burger, but in all actuality, it's his burger. We're just selling it for him."

About 300 to 400 children from Thunder Bay are flown to southern Ontario for treatment at hospitals funded by the Children's Health Foundation.

Hunter still has annual check-ups at the London Children's Hospital.

The Hunter Burger will be on sale at Beefcake Burger Factory until the end of March.

"I picked the ingredients and it's very good."
HUNTER FERNYC

TB Life

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LEITH DUNICK

SEEING IS BELIEVING: Manitoba skier Jackie Trudeau has her eyes checked on Monday as part of a 2020 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games program.

Special Olympians learn to be healthier athletes

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Athletes attending this week's Special Olympics Canada Winter Games are getting royal treatment when it comes to their health.

Over the next three days, up to 350 of the 960 competitors will take part in the Healthy Athletes program, where they'll have the opportunity to gauge their well-being through a variety of tests, including blood pressure and body-mass index, their vision, their dental health, their level of fitness and finally, their adaptive coping skills.

Matthew Williams, a speed skater from British Columbia, said it's a great opportunity for all athletes to help them assess their overall health and see where they might need improvement or additional help.

"It gives us a great opportunity to receive those services, to make sure that we're healthy and able to be the best at our sport. Being able to receive those services is really nice, because for many athletes it's very difficult to receive them when they go back to

their home communities," Williams said on Monday, a day before the Games' opening ceremonies are set to begin.

"Having this here at the Games really means a lot to all of us athletes and I'm really excited to be a part of that."

Williams, 28, said the first station he went to on Monday was called Strong Minds.

"When you're an athlete it's a really big component, because when you're mentally strong and have those tools to really keep your nerves down and make sure that you're able to compete at your best," he said.

"I think when you're not just physically strong, but mentally strong as well, it gives you a great opportunity to have your best performance."

Thomas Weissberger, the national clinical advisor for the Opening Eyes program with Special Olympics, as well as the head optician, called it a vital service to help the athletes get the proper care they need – and might not be getting at home.

Many of the athletes have aged out of any

government programs that might cover the costs of certain examinations, including eye care.

"This is vital, because if you can't see, you can't function as well. And many (athletes) don't even know. Unlike tooth pain, you don't know when you can't see. All you know is you can't function at the same level,"

Weissberger said.

Each athlete will leave the Games with a new prescription set of eyewear, or a pair of sport goggles or sunglasses to help protect their eyes.

"This is a way to bring eye care and proper health care to those who don't have access, normally."

It's also a chance for professionals to gain experience working with people with intellectual disabilities, Weissberger added.

Competition at the 2020 Special Olympics Canada Winter Games begins on Wednesday at a variety of venues around Thunder Bay.

"Having this here at the Games really means a lot to all of us athletes..."
MATTHEW WILLIAMS

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Sleep out for Shelter

THUNDER BAY

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The public is being invited to spend a night outside in late March in support of Shelter House. Executive director Michelle Jordan on Tuesday said the SleepOut for Shelter, which was created last year, is a chance for people to learn more about what it's like to be homeless, what many of their clients experience without a place to call home, as well as to raise money to help the organization provide year-round programming to those living on the streets.

Last year's inaugural event managed to raise about \$15,000.

"We'll have people talk about the

work we do here. So we'll have people from our managed alcohol program, from the shelter side, from the Street Outreach Service program, our feeding program as well as people

with lived experience in homelessness come to talk to people and educate them about what it's like and



BIG NIGHT: Michelle Jordan is the executive director at Shelter House.

why it happens," Jordan said.

Participants must be 18 years or older and are encouraged to bring sleeping bags, warm clothing and flashlights on March 28, the night the SleepOut is scheduled to take place.

"We'll also have breakfast in the morning for participants and we'll have food available during the night," Jordan said.

She added the goal is to exceed last year's total.

It's not just about raising money. It's about creating awareness. There are far too many myths circulation about homelessness that just aren't true, Jordan said.

"I think the biggest thing is people think that it's their own doing and that it's simply not true," Jordan said. "I used to always say we're all just a paycheck away from being homeless, but that's not true either. It's supports.

"If you have no supports in your life and something happens to you, then where do you go? You have to come to agencies like us to get help because there's just nobody for you to help you get back on your feet. That's why we're here."

It's rarely individual failings, she said.

"It's a very small percentage. The majority of the people who are homeless, it's not because of that. It's usually other issues that are going on."

Participants are asked to raise a minimum of \$100 to take part in the event, which begins at 10 p.m. on the night in question and ends the following morning at 7 a.m.

For more information, visit the Shelter House website.

It's warming up out there



FRED JONES

RURAL ROOTS

Saturday was warm – very warm. Almost t-shirt weather, not uncommon for mid-February when (I'm told) we get a chinook from out west. A sign of spring? Then there was my wife, Laura, The Gardener, itching to get her hands in dirt and plant seeds. A definite sign of spring.

While a pleasant change in temperature, a balm against the cold, the warmth played havoc with my ancient tractor, Big Red. Laura had asked me to remove some snow that had collected at the base of the short walkway from the parking area to the main entrance to the horse barn. Also, we had ordered a shipment of firewood – ten cords of birch in eight-foot lengths, to be bucked by yours truly and split on our gas-powered splitter.

"You should get on the tractor and move all that snow you piled so that the wood delivery person can dump the logs beside the splitter," Laura suggested. She was correct: the best place for the uncut logs to be deposited is beside the splitter and just in front of where we stack the split pieces. Handy as our woodpile is close to the wood door through which we toss into the boiler room.

So with those two tasks in mind, I hopped onto Big Red, fired it up, backed it out of the tractor shelter, and began to pick up snow. What I soon learned was that the unaccustomed heat had made the snow wet and heavy – very wet and heavy. First, I tried ploughing into the snow where the wood would be deposited. I picked up a couple of loads and deposited them across the drive onto the oval away from the house. Then I thought that perhaps I should clear the snow from in front of the barn entrance. So, over we trundled, Red and me, and with the bucket, I scooped up the snow that was blocking the path. Then I backed up and took it to the side of the driveway and dumped it.

But I had driven just a tad into the snow piled at the side of the drive and when I tried to back out, the rear wheels on Red just spun. I tried to drive a bit forward – no go. I

dismounted the tractor and went to fetch a shovel in the hopes that I could dig beneath those rear tires, and also free the one front tire in the snow. Still no go. Rear tires just spun. I went to casa Jones and asked for help. Laura came out and backed the truck up behind tractor. I attached the chain and we tried to free Red. No go. Rear tires of Red spun, four tires of four-wheel drive truck spun.

Then Laura said "Why not get the wheelbarrow and put some arena dirt in it?" I trekked into the barn, down the aisle, and into the riding arena with a wheelbarrow and shovel. I returned and both of us spread the sandy dirt beneath the rear tires. Didn't work. More dirt but still the tires spun.

So, here we have the truck stuck on a flat surface and the tractor stuck digging craters in the snow each time I try to back out. Then I remembered being told long ago and far away about a trick where you raise the bucket of the tractor, turn the bucket so that it is vertically up and down, plunge it into the snow so that the front end of the tractor rises up, then as you clamp down on the pedal that locks the two rear tractor wheels, you pull the lever that raises the bucket back to its original position. It worked!

But no, the truck wouldn't go, just four wheels spinning. So, I backed the tractor onto the drive, hooked the chain onto the rear of the truck, and pulled. It also worked! Whew!

The warm temperatures had turned the surface of the driveway into a skating rink for vehicles. Under the soft snow is a layer of ice from the freezing rains we received a couple of months ago.

And the other sign of spring?

The previous weekend, Laura (The Gardener, remember?) began sorting through her seeds. "Go into the shelter and bring me the tub I use to mix potting soil, please" I did and then I departed to do something, can't remember what; but when I returned, a shelf was now standing in front of the living room window and three trays of dirt were set on the shelves. "I planted three kinds of onion, leeks, and parsley," I was informed, "We'll see if any of them germinate."

They did. Wee green frond-y things have sprouted out of the dirt on those trays. And this Saturday gardeners will be at the Gillies Community Hall for the Annual Seed Swap. There are also lectures and demonstrations. All welcome.

Can spring be far behind?

Marcus Powlowski, MP

Thunder Bay–Rainy River

Please call or visit my office for information or assistance on federal government programs

Constituency Office
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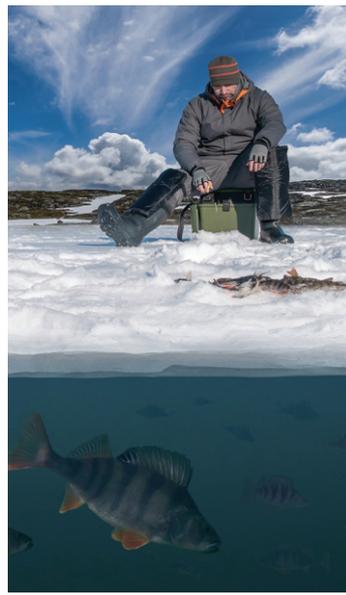


LOCAL NEWS

Dreaming of fresh fish



KEITH AILEY
THE GOOD LIFE



OUT ON THE LAKE: Ice fishing at this time of year is a lot of fun.

Last weekend's warm weather had me imagining the perfect day of ice fishing. Unfortunately, the reality for most winter anglers is quite different. Sometimes the fish don't cooperate.

Sometimes equipment fails. Sometimes the weather is terrible. There are often wrong turns, closed bait shops or worse delays on the way to the lake. Almost every fishing trip features a little unexpected adventure and some trials we will need to overcome.

We consider these challenges part of the adventure, but let us imagine, for just a second, a perfect day of ice fishing.

Hit the road

It is only mid-week, but before you even ask, your wonderful partner encourages you to get out for some bonding time with your friends this weekend. You are off-the-hook for driving the kids to their activities and birthday parties.

Saturday morning, the thermometer reveals that it is already a pleasant -2°C and there is no wind. Then your buddy, who has offered to drive, shows up on time, with a large coffee waiting for you in the toasty warm

cab of his truck. Oh, and he had some time to kill, so he already picked up the bait. You're quickly on the road to the lake, and the highway is clear and dry, with very light traffic.

Upon arrival at the lake, the launch area is freshly plowed and, because nobody else is around, you are able to quickly pack the sleds and hit the trail.

A little fresh powder over the well-packed route to the lake makes the snowmobile ride fast and fun. The ice is perfect too. There is no slush, no pressure ridges and no snow drifts to slow you down.

When you arrive at your favourite

spot, you're delighted to discover that nothing has fallen out of the sleighs on the way over, and the absence of tracks means that nobody has been fishing there all winter long. The sun shines down on you, and not just metaphorically.

While you drill a staggered series of holes in the ice, your friend is busy clearing the snow from the freshly-drilled holes.

The ice is solid and safe, but your freshly sharpened auger blade chews through it like butter.

When you drop your fish finder's transducer down the first hole, the bright red marks on the flasher reveal that there are several lake trout right below you.

Biting

You drop your jig, but before it gets half-way to the bottom, two aggressive trout charge up, and the bigger one inhales it.

After a tremendous fight, the fish is landed without incident and you hoist the trophy for a few pictures.

You drop your bait again and some co-operative whitefish keep the action going while preventing you from completing your limit of trout too soon. Meanwhile, your fishing partner is also enjoying some consistent action.

As you finish the last bite of your delicious lunch, your rod signals another strike. Then you hear line peeling off the reel as something big runs with your bait. You rush over, tighten the drag, and set the hook into the fish of a lifetime.

It's RRSP time

Spousal contributions are applied to your income

I plan on contributing to my RRSP as I always do, but wondered how it works if I also contribute to a spousal RRSP. Does this count towards my contribution limit or my partner's limit. It is quite confusing. Could you let me know.

George

The tax deduction is given to the contributor and would be limited to their personal CRA limit.

Essentially this is a form of income splitting between spouses and ensures that registered account balances are kept fairly even for both partners.

Once retired, each partner should plan to have approximately the same amount of income that they are drawing out of their investments to ensure they are in the same marginal tax rate.

One thing that you must keep in mind when you contribute to a spousal RRSP is the rule of attribution.

If the spouse who received the contribution withdraws the money from their RRSP during the year of the contribution or up to and including the two preceding years, the contributing spouse would be taxed. Now knowing this, make sure you do not contribute to a spousal RRSP if you are nearing retirement and foresee future withdrawals.

Hope this helps George. Don't forget, the RRSP deadline for 2019 contributions is March 2, 2020.

*Good Luck and Best Wishes,
Money Lady*

Dear George – RRSP Saver!

RRSPs are Registered Retirement Savings Plans and a fabulous way to help you save for your future ensuring your invested funds grow tax free until the withdrawal. Nowadays most people agree that we cannot base our retirement future on government pension allowances.

Trying to live on a small government subsidized pension income would be virtually impossible for most Canadians with debt. This is why planning and saving early is so important and RRSPs should be an integral part of everyone's investment portfolio.

Contributing to a spousal RRSP is a great way to even out the contributions so each partner has similar savings portfolios. We recommend this often when incomes are varied between couples so that the higher income earning spouse can contribute to the lower income spouse's portfolio.

The thing to remember is that any contributions you make to your spouse's RRSP will be deducted from your RRSP limit and not your spouse's limit.



CHRISTINE IBBOTSON
MONEY LADY

Written by Christine Ibbotson, Author of "How to Retire Debt Free and Wealthy" If you have a money question, please email on my website at: www.askthemoneylady.ca Follow on Facebook and Instagram

Do you have an opinion to share?

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Digital dog finds Alaskan home

Not so dark *Call of the Wild* stumbles on two fronts: storytelling and technology



MARTY MASCARIN

MOVIE TALK

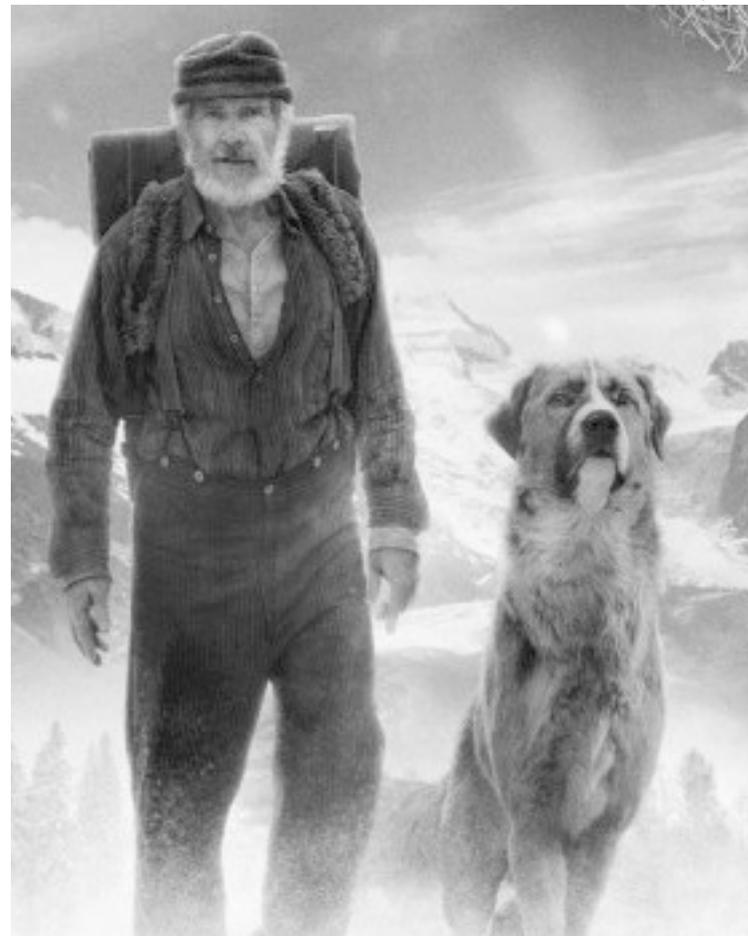
The creators of *Call of the Wild* pay well-intentioned homage to Jack London's classic tale about a dog finding his true "inner self" in the wilds of Alaska during the Klondike gold rush.

But while the production values are impressive, the artificiality on-screen and compressed storyline leave *Call of the Wild* fitfully effective.

It's 1903, California, where we first meet our canine protagonist, Buck, a St. Bernard-Scotch Collie cross. Buck is all energetic, accident-prone, good-hearted exuberance. His many transgressions include the total destruction of the family's outdoor Thanksgiving table.

In short order, Buck goes from being a domestic pooch to a kidnapped canine shipped off to Alaska, to becoming a bewildered sled dog making mail runs, before being sold along with his rag-tag dog team to a trio of Americans bent on finding gold. They are led by Snidely Whiplash-type Hal, who whips Buck and his canine pals into near exhaustion.

A man named Thornton (Harrison Ford) intervenes and saves Buck, impressed by a previous encounter with the dog in town. Stymied by Thornton and Buck, bad guy Hal ignores Thornton's warnings, and charges into the wilderness anyway,



NORTHERN TREK: Harrison Ford plays Thornton against a computer generated Buck.

only to have his team meet doom. An insanely infuriated Hal blames Thornton and swears vengeance.

Buck settles in with Thornton, a man haunted by the loss of his son to fever, which brought an end to his marriage, prompting him to seek

solitude. To honour his son, who was fascinated by the north, Thornton and Buck head off to 'somewhere off the map' by canoe and on foot. They survive nature's challenges together but Thornton senses that Buck is yearning to find his true calling

somewhere in the wilderness.

The story gets metaphysical, as Buck finds himself responding to a vision in the form of a feral 'spirit dog' that appears and assists Buck whenever he's confronted by danger, helping him evolve from a domesticated canine to a true creature of nature.

Call of the Wild stumbles on two fronts: storytelling and technology.

London's tales dwelt on the beauty and unforgiving elements of nature and the violence that ensues among both men and animals. The screenplay tries to achieve a balance by not getting too dark for young moviegoers while also striving to engage adults. This compromise results in an uneven, shallow film.

As we whip through the tale, most characters we encounter have virtually no back story. They are present simply to advance the action, and there is plenty of that.

Then there's the computer-generated images and green screen technology.

Buck and much of the smashing landscapes are artificial, albeit impressive looking, creations. (Much of the film was shot in Northern California.) Motion choreography expert Terry Notary actually portrays Buck, his human form appearing 'dog-like' on-screen but Buck and his fellow canines behave all too human as if they are in a live-action version of *Scooby-Doo*.

Old pro Ford anchors the film, grizzled and gravelly-voiced, supplying the needed narration, giving *Call of the Wild* its heart and humanity in an otherwise tame tale.

Five things to do this week

Thursday

Hot on the heels of fellow Conservative Party leadership hopeful Erin O'Toole's recent visit to the city, fellow front-runner Peter MacKay is headed to Thunder Bay to rally the troops.

The former defence minister is scheduled for a meet-and-greet session on Thursday night at the Finlandia Club, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Musician Tara Shannon, along with Jessica Pearson and the East Wind will perform at the Urban Abbey in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters. One-hundred per cent of ticket sales will be donated to the organization. The three-hour event kicks off at 7 p.m.

Saturday

The folks who bring you BrewHa! are introducing LeapBeer to celebrate Feb. 29. Tickets are \$30 and attendees receive three beer tokens and three food tokens from Pinetree Catering. There is also a welcome beer from Lake of the Woods Brewing Company. 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Saturday

Dance the night away to Radar and the Rockets at the Elk's Lodge No. 82's Rock & Roll Dance Party, featuring music of the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Admission is free and the event runs from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Saturday

Local favourite Jean-Paul De Roover is holding his Loss album release and tour kickoff at the Black Pirates Pub. Admission is just \$5 and the night will also feature the likes of Cold Lake Sun, The Bandaid Solution, I.R. Idiot and DJ Sugarman.



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IN THE bay

You'll say, 'I do' to Cambrian's latest

THEATRE

By Linda Maehans -TB Source

Most people put, one would expect, a wedding date near top-of-list, particularly when it's their own.

Sure, some such decisions might become a spur-of-the-moment thing. You know, passions running high, overhead nothing but brightest blue. Come to think of it, the skies over Vegas are usually that shade; and those balmy desert breezes certainly don't hinder.

Dear Romantic Fools, our time has arrived. These next couple of weeks we have a date, as witnesses, in a wedding chapel in Las Vegas. With Cambrian Players of Thunder Bay, no less. And with more hilarity than anyone could possibly wish for. Guess who just might be there to perform the ceremonies? This ain't called *Four Weddings & An Elvis* for nothing.

The Source meets with Sandy, owner of the chapel, 17 years now. Where hearts get sparkled; and the glitter of



GOIN' TO THE CHAPEL: The cast of Cambrian Players *Four Weddings & An Elvis*.

money and showbiz rocks 24-7. Sandy's chapel, done in lovely hues of pink and turquoise and green, is reminiscent of a box of sweet candy mints.

Actor Jesica McNabb smiles, then gets straight to the point. "Oh it's wonderful. Celebrating couples in love. Every day. Each and every day. Over and over, and

over again.

Elvis? Occasionally, yes, he's in the building." Gosh, the corners of Sandy's lips have a beautiful curve.

"Over the years we've had our share of celebrities. And circus-freaks, psychopaths." A slight shadow there. I go out on a limb, ask this chapel owner in Vegas about her own love-life. Her tone a bit terse, Sandy tells me it's a constant joy. Advice? "If it ain't great now, well it ain't gonna get great. All the wishin' & the hopin' in the world won't make it so." Did I just imagine a pop song melody?

A man, short cropped hair, wearing a pale-blue checkered jacket scuttles in. He doesn't look pleased to be there. Actor Jerry Silen introduces himself as Stan. Stan is gettin' married.

"I'm here to get it done and over with. Good spot to do it, this Vegas. Just walk in, do it, and pfit, outcha go." He flicks a ring-less hand. "Back home like nothing's happened. My wife-to-be? Bev's the ex of the man who took my

wife away from me." Oh dear, that's a tight little smile.

"I'm just lookin' forward to getting back home and showin' my ex-wife I can be happy without her. Where? Roanoke.

Stars I wanna see? Elvis, no. He's just cheesy. And I sure don't like that Donna Summer."

The honour of directing this hoot of a production falls to Cambrian's own Gabe Ferrazzo.

"Our characters in this are stereotypical, but we're trying to make them real, give them some sort of soul." Big grin. "I've certainly cleared any desert sand from our library of Elvis tunes. And we do have a minister, straight from Vegas, here for, ahem, a ceremony or two." Ferrazzo's face is perfect deadpan.

Without hesitation *Four Weddings & An Elvis* walks audiences down the aisle of "I do". The chapel: 818 Spring Street; all shows 7:30 p.m. (not a.m.). March 4-7 & 11-14; tickets @ Calico, Fireweed, CambrianPlayers.com, or the door. Let's go tie that knot.

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IN THE bay

Televised funerals a modern trend

Kobe Bryant's funeral was no small affair. The family had their private service weeks ago. But on Monday, Bryant joined an elite group of celebrities with a televised funeral for the world to watch.

The three most-watched funerals in history were Princess Diana and Michael Jackson (2.5 billion worldwide each) and Ronald Reagan (35 million). But it all began with John F. Kennedy in 1963.

Only a private camera caught the president's assassination. That famous footage didn't air until 1970. However, news spread quickly and cameras began rolling with updates immediately.

Ironically, after the prime suspect was caught, he too was assassinated – this time on live television. Fortunately, CBS had new technology – something called “instant



replay” – ready for the occasion. And then came the funeral. Televised for America to see.

That day, 45.9 percent of homes with a television were watching. In less than 72 hours, America went from relying on newspapers and radio to becoming a “TV Nation.”

Yes, the televised funeral allowed the nation to unite and share in its grief. In fact, reportedly two-thirds

of viewers became physically ill or “emotionally distressed” watching the events unfold on TV.

But more so, it helped create the “legendary” mentality of celebrity deaths.

Today, many funeral homes record their services for live-streaming or for the family to share afterward with friends or loved ones who are unable to attend. Other families watch it later because at the time of the service, they were too numb with grief or shock to process the events of the day. It's cathartic.

However, televised celebrity funerals are nothing like a private video shot from a discreetly-placed camera. They are produced, staged,

lit, choreographed, and auctioned off for television rights. They become more spectacle than catharsis.

But worse, the production manages to transform what was simply a human being with successes, flaws and a past, into a god-like icon of legendary status: never to be questioned or judged.

Gayle King recently interviewed WNBA star Lisa Leslie, during which she asked, among other topics, how Bryant's rape accusation 15 years prior might affect his legacy now.

After CBS ran a promotion featuring that question, King was attacked on social media, her life threatened for mentioning Bryant's not-so-pristine past.

And King wasn't the only reporter to receive such public censure.

Why? The case made headlines. It was no secret.

And by all accounts, Bryant did a lot of good in the years that followed. Some might call it a redemption. Something worth honouring.

Unfortunately, that doesn't fit the iconic spectacle of a custom-made casket covered in NBA trophies. They want god-like bright white, not mere human shades of grey.

The loss of Bryant, his daughter and the seven others in that helicopter crash is a tragedy. For families and for sports. But after weeks of sanitized tributes, this televised funeral has only heightened the blind idolatry.

If fans don't honour the whole story of Kobe Bryant, why bother?



KOBE BRYANT

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Eternity
- 4 Mayan year
- 8 Immediately
- 12 Self
- 13 Geological epoch
- 14 Hereditary factor
- 15 Sphere
- 16 Shoal
- 17 Reliquary
- 18 Wicker basket
- 20 Fair
- 22 Sweetsop
- 25 Indian loam
- 28 Epoch
- 31 Sudan lake
- 33 52 (Rom. numeral)
- 34 Poem
- 35 Ignominy
- 36 Doctrine (suf.)
- 37 Hebrew letter
- 38 Parson bird

DOWN

- 1 Equal
- 2 Monster
- 3 Cribbage term
- 4 Afghan carpet
- 5 One-spot
- 6 Hole-in-one
- 7 Ground-striking golf stroke
- 8 Love feast
- 9 Harem
- 10 Ancient (abbr.)
- 11 Edible seed
- 19 To (Scot.)
- 21 Mother of Brunhilde
- 23 Spoken alphabet letter
- 24 Military headgear
- 26 Scot. island
- 27 Hoarfrost
- 28 Burial place
- 29 Idea (pref.)
- 30 Web
- 32 Cupid
- 35 Bonnyclabber
- 39 Council for Econ. Advisors (abbr.)
- 41 Confusion
- 43 Liquor bottle
- 45 Apiece
- 47 Victory site of Nelson
- 48 Dressed
- 49 Expedite
- 50 But (Sp.)
- 51 Individual
- 53 Pasture
- 54 Civil Service Commission (abbr.)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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WORD SEARCH

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 O F H J T Y U U P A T A R D S
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- Fleshing
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PREVIOUS SOLUTION: “Keep doing what you are doing and you will keep getting what you are getting.” — Author Unknown



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Sports

local sports news | information | coverage

Golden Hawks upset T-Wolves

BASKETBALL
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Ryan Thomson said he knew from the outset his Lakehead Thunderwolves were in a dog fight.

In the end, they were chewed up and spit out by an upset-minded Laurier Golden Hawks squad, the No. 10 seed in the OUA men's basketball playoffs, a team coming off an upset win on Wednesday night against seventh-seeded Queen's.

Powered by 20 first-half points by a Kyrie Irving-inspired Ali Sow, a sharpshooter unafraid to fire up a shot from just about anywhere on the court, Laurier overcame a three-point deficit after three quarters on Saturday night and earned a spot in the OUA semifinals against the Western Mustangs with a surprising 68-64 victory over the No. 8 team in the country.



DRIVING THROUGH: Lakehead's Laoui Msambya (right) looks for a way around Laurier's Jackson Mayers on Saturday at the Thunderdome.

Tough loss

"This one hurt more than anything because I know how much these guys worked every day. It's the way these things turn out," said Isaiah Traylor, bottled up and double-teamed all night long by the Laurier defence and held to just 11 points in his final game with the Thunderwolves.

"Basketball is a small part of life. You've got to look at the bigger picture. You've got to learn how to lose to win. You've got to roll with the punches. I know Lakehead is on the ride up from here."

The second-seeded Wolves just couldn't build any momentum.

The Golden Hawks quieted the crowd out of the gate, opening a quick 5-0 lead. No matter what the

Thunderwolves were able to deliver, Laurier had an answer.

Lakehead jumped in front 14-9 in the first, only to have Sow and Adnam Begovic bury back-to-back threes to close out the quarter, the Golden Hawks up 15-14.

Lakehead turned on the jets in the second, Laouis Msambya powering a 17-1 run that saw the Thunderwolves jump in front by 11, leading 34-23, scoring three times and adding a long assist on a Matthew Edwards fast-break hoop.

But it was just another challenge to overcome for the Golden Hawks, who won seven of 10 games after the Christmas break to finish the regular season at 11-11.

Sow nailed three shots from behind

the arc, added a two-pointer and Matt Minutillo hit a three of his own just before the half, Laurier having climbed to within two, trailing 39-37.

"I knew I kind of had to be aggressive and get our game back going. I knew once we got back into the game we had a chance," said Sow, who had 31 points in a 20-point loss to Lakehead earlier this season and led all scorers on Saturday night with 27.

Laurier and Lakehead traded the lead five times in the third quarter and took the lead on a deep three-pointer by guard Alston Harris, his second in the final 1:35 of the period.

The Wolves held the lead for the first half of the fourth, but then began uncharacteristically turning the ball over as they tried to drive the lane and Laurier made them pay.

Begovic hit a trey and then Sow followed suit, firing over Harris to give the Golden Hawks a 64-60 lead.

With 19.8 seconds left, Traylor went to the line, hit his first and tried to intentionally miss the second, only to be called for a lane violation as he took off after the ball. He hit one more three, his only bucket of the second half, with 7.9 to go, but Laurier put it away at the line.

Great game plan

"I think they did a good job making us play by their pace, which for most of the year we haven't really let teams do," Thomson said. "They slowed us down, we couldn't get off our ball screens with any sense of urgency and that really hurt us."

"Guys like Laoui and Alston, who are really dynamic off mid pick-and-roll, it just kind of made it very difficult for those guys. They did a really good job at shrinking the floor, getting guys in gaps and, making us have to make more plays."

Thunderwolves have plenty to be proud about

Credit the Laurier Golden Hawks, a team that finished 10th in the OUA men's basketball standings, yet found themselves in the semifinal after a 68-64 upset of the heavily favoured Lakehead Thunderwolves.



LEITH DUNICK
SPORTS SHOTS

burying three-pointers at will it seemed. But it was the Golden Hawks defensive zone coverage that earned them the win.

Guard Ntore Habimana was locked onto the Wolves leading scorer, Isaiah Traylor, for most of the night (along with others on the double

team) limiting Lakehead's best offensive weapon to 11 points.

With the game on the line, Laurier defenders were routinely stripping balls from the Thunderwolves as they drove through the paint.

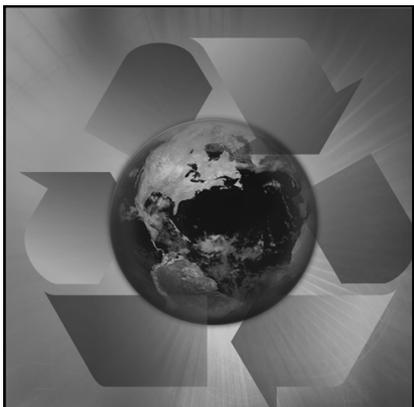
Lakehead simply didn't have an answer. Instead of blocking shots, Lock Lam was the one being blocked.

The good news is coach Ryan Thomson has plenty of building blocks in place, despite the pending

loss of Traylor to graduation.

Guard Laoui Msambya, in particular, showed he can be a force to be reckoned with at the OUA level, as can Alston Harris.

They'll both be needed to help replace the scoring and leadership provided by Traylor, who should probably be the Thunderwolves male athlete of the year – although Marco Palermo winning USports wrestling gold last weekend is tempting too.



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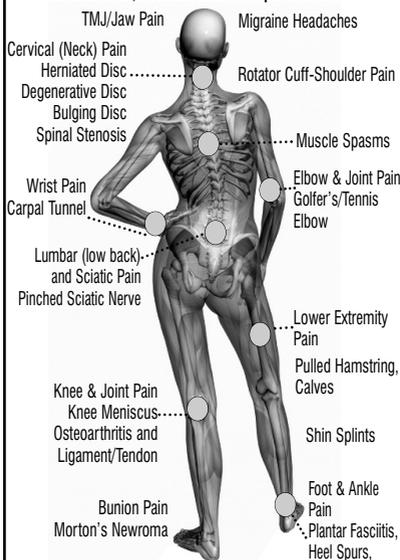
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Tigers rally to capture volleyball title

VOLLEYBALL

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Westgate Tigers only lost three sets all season long.

But after two sets in Thursday's senior girl's volleyball final, the No. 1 seed was down 2-0 to the defending champion St. Ignace Falcons and in real trouble.

That's when their championship mentality kicked in.

The Tigers rallied back from a 20-17 late in the third set, scoring eight of the final nine points to eke out a 25-21 and built on that momentum from there.

They took the fourth set 25-20 and capped off their third title in four seasons with a 15-10 win in the fifth and deciding set in the best-of-three series.

It was an unbelievable finish, said veteran Jenna Sweitzer, who won a senior girl's title a year ago playing for the Falcons.

"It was scary, but I knew we could do it because we have in the past,"

Sweitzer said.

"I feel we got down a little bit, because normally we don't lose the first set."

Teammate Merritt Morine, the Tigers libero, said they had a talk after the second set and agreed they had to pick up the pace or their 12-0, undefeated season would go for naught.

"I guess we just took that energy and took it," she said.

"It was hard. We didn't think we were going to lose this, not to be cocky or anything. But we thought that we had it. For us to (start) losing, it made us come back even stronger."

Hoisting the championship trophy and advancing to the NWOSSA regional final at home next week is an amazing feeling, Morine added.

"For NWOSSA next week, it's going to be insane. Just bringing back that energy we brought, losing two sets and winning three."

Down 9-4 in the opening set, the



LEITH DUNICK

FALCONS GROUNDED: The Westgate Tigers roared back from two games down to win.

Falcons went on an 11-1 run to take a 15-10 lead, and went on to take it 25-16. Westgate was up 8-7 in the second set,

but the Falcons scored seven straight points to lead 13-8, then outscored the Tigers 12-10 the rest of the way to earn

a 25-18 win.

Westgate coach Curtis Michaluk, who's been behind the bench since 1999, said coming back from two sets down showed a lot of character by his Tigers team.

"We've kind of always had a bit of a slow start, but not quite that slow of a start. We have a confident group of kids and it was a little bit smaller group of kids this year, so our dynamic was a little more cohesive," Michaluk said.

"But we knew what we had to do and we knew if we could overcome some of those barriers we faced in the first two sets that once we got some momentum things would change, and that's exactly what happened."

The coach said all he told them was to focus on what was ahead, as opposed to what they'd just done.

"It didn't change if we lost the first two. We still needed to win three."

NWOSSA begins on Friday in Thunder Bay.

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Falcons win again

BASKETBALL
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The St. Ignatius Falcons are winning senior boys' basketball titles at a rate that would even make Bill Russell proud.

Led by Ethan Willmore's 26-point performance on Thursday night - 21 of them in the first half alone, the Falcons notched their sixth straight Superior Secondary Schools Athletic Association crown with a 78-45 win over a St. Patrick Saints team that hasn't claimed a title since 1997.

Willmore was unstoppable in the first 20 minutes, scoring 10 in the opening quarter and pouring in 11 more in the second as St. Ignatius built an insurmountable 26-point lead at half and handed the Saints the lopsided loss.

"It feels amazing to win another one of these," said the 17-year-old Willmore, who would like to continue playing basketball at the post-secondary level next season.

Willmore, who sat for much of the final quarter, the outcome already well in hand, said to see the program win six straight championships is pretty special, a rare feat at any level of the sport.

It's the winning culture at St. Ignatius, he said.

"We have coaches and players who just buy in every year and we're willing to put the work in - that's our angle, we just want to win the championship."

The Saints, who finished second at 6-4, gave the Falcons a bit of a challenge in the first quarter, cutting a 19-8 lead to 21-17 with a 7-0 run, A.J. Tshilombo scoring six of his team-high 25 points during the stretch to give St. Patrick hope against a team that ran the table during the regular season, finishing 10-0 atop the senior boys' standings.

Unfortunately for the vocal pack of Saints fans at the Thunderdome, it was a close as they'd get the rest of the way.



LEITH DUNICK

HOT HAND: Ethan Willmore had 26 points to lead St. Ignatius to a sixth straight championship.

The Falcons upped their lead to seven by quarter's end, then outscored the Saints 23-4 in the second quarter to all but put the game away.

It was a product of hard work said Grade 10 guard Makeer Makeer.

"It was amazing, the amount of effort we put in every day at practice. Whatever we put in, we get out. It wasn't our best performance today, but hopefully next time at NWOSSA we'll be able to perform as well as we did during the season," said Makeer, who wound up with 13 points on the night, third on the team behind Willmore and Sebastien Paradis, who collected 14.

The Falcons slowed a bit in the third, only outpacing the Saints 17-15, but came on strong in the fourth to seal the deal.

"It's fantastic," said coach Dino Buset. "We've got a really strong group of kids, that basketball is their prime sport and it's fun to be around them."

McCarville falls in playoffs

MOOSE JAW, SASK
By Leith Dunick - TB Source

For seven ends, Krista McCarville out-curved Team Ontario counterpart Rachel Homan.

It's those final three ends she'd like back.

Homan scored three with hammer in the ninth on a double-raise takeout on her final stone to jump in front 7-5, then stole two more against a desperate Northern Ontario squad to advance out of the 3-4 Page Playoff at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts and into Sunday's semifinal against Jennifer Jones. She'd go on to beat Jones, but fell 8-7 to Manitoba's Kerri Einarson in Sunday's final.

McCarville was in front most of the match.

After forcing Homan, who she'd never beaten in five previous Scotties meetings,

to one in the second, McCarville took one in the third and stole one in the fourth to jump in front 2-1.

Homan tied things up in the fifth, but McCarville retook the lead in the sixth with deuce, the first of the match. Unfortunately for Team Northern Ontario, Homan stormed back with two of her own in the seventh, then forced McCarville to take a single in the eighth, setting up the decisive ninth.

McCarville's team, which includes lead Jen Gates, second Ashley Sippala and third Kendra Lilly, will have to win its way into next year's Scotties Tournament of Hearts, which will be played at Thunder Bay's Fort William Gardens. A win at this year's Scotties would have earned them an automatic berth.

Einarson will wear Team Canada's flag at the 2021 Scotties.

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 FIGURE SKATING Thunder Bay Tournament Centre	11:30AM-4:15PM	5:15PM-8:30PM	2:45PM-9:15PM	
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50. PERSONAL

Require person to do occasional sewing repairs to mans work clothes in the west-for area... 807-622-7766

53. GENERAL SERVICES

#1 INCOME TAX LADY. Open 7 days a week 10am-9pm. CALL LORRAINE 767-5161

#1-A SNOW BLOWING SERVICES. Dump Runs, apartment clean-ups etc. Odd jobs, all kinds of general services. Frank 628-5919 or 767-0995

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54. HOME IMPROVEMENTS

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57. HELP WANTED

Require person to do occasional sewing repairs to mans work clothes in the west-for area... 807-622-7766

63. COMING EVENTS

World Day of Prayer 2020 will be held at St. Thomas Anglican church on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at 11 a.m. This year's service, written by the women of Zimbabwe, is "Rise. Take up your mat and walk"

64. CRAFT & FLEA MARKETS

Table rentals now available for the Thunder Bay Military Family Resource Centre "SPRING YARD & CRAFT SALE" Saturday, April 25, 2020, 10:00am-1:00pm Held indoors at the HMCS GRIFFON, 125 N. Algoma Street. \$20/table. Call 807-345-5116 to book your table.

68. DEATH/FUNERALS



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Recycling saves energy
Recycling uses less space in landfills
Recycling saves trees
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Recycling creates jobs.

72. INFORMATION

JESSE COOK
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SAT, APRIL 4, 2020
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JESSECOOK.COM

72. INFORMATION

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ANSWERS TO THIS WEEK'S PUZZLES

EON	HAAB	ASAP	9	4	6	2	5	8	3	7	1
EGO	ECCA	GENE	2	3	8	9	7	1	6	5	4
ORB	REEF	ARCA	7	1	5	3	4	6	8	2	9
CESTA	FEP	PA	3	7	2	5	9	4	1	6	8
TIME	CHAD	LII	8	5	9	1	6	2	7	4	3
ODE	SHAME	ISM	1	6	4	8	3	7	5	9	2
MEM	KOKO	COTE	4	9	3	6	1	5	2	8	7
BOBBY	ORFE		5	8	1	7	2	9	4	3	6
RARE	LANCE		6	2	7	4	8	3	9	1	5
MOAB	ALCA	ILA									
ANNE	CESS	LAS									
SEEL	HACK	EDE									

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "If you want to know how rich you are, try to find how many things you have that money cannot buy." — Author Unknown

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